

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 04427 161751Z

63

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 SAM-01 ACDA-07 /098 W

----- 011451

R 161717Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9494

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SP MO LOS

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN-SPANISH RELATIONS

REF: RABAT 3426

1. SUMMARY. DURING AN AUGUST 4 TOUR D'HORIZON WITH THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR ALABART-MIRANDA, THE AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED THE PRESENT STATE OF MOROCCAN-SPANISH RELATIONS. A FEW MAJOR PROBLEMS REMAIN, INCLUDING ONE OR TWO STICKY ONES, BUT MIRANDA'S PRESENTATION WAS ON BALANCE POSITIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. ATMOSPHERICS. DESPITE CONSIDERABLE DISTRACTIONS WITH INTERNAL AFFAIRS IN MADRID, MIRANDA SAID THAT SPAIN WISHED TO PURSUE THE PATH OF CLOSE RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO AND THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO INFORM THE GOM OF SPAIN'S READINESS TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN MID-SEPTEMBER. HE INDICATED BOTH SIDES WERE LOOKING HARD AT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE REMAINING UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS BETWEEN THEM, WITH THE RESULT THAT IN SOME AREAS MOVEMENT WAS NOT AS RAPID AS THE SPANISH WOULD LIKE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RABAT 04427 161751Z

3. REMAINING NEGOTIATING ISSUES. FISHING WAS PERHAPS THE

TRICKIEST OF ALL REMAINING ISSUES. SPAIN WAS HAVING TROUBLE WITH MOROCCO'S DEMANDS IN VIEW OF THE GREAT DEPENDENCE WHICH CANARY-BASED FISHERMEN HAD ON MOROCCAN AND SAHARAN WATERS. ALSO OUTSTANDING WAS SETTLEMENT OF REMAINING CLAIMS ON FORMER SPANISH OFFICIAL PROPERTIES (ESPECIALLY IN THE NORTH) AND MOROCCANIZED FORMER SPANISH PRIVATE BUSINESSES AND PROPERTY. THE FOURTH AREA AWAITING SETTLEMENT WAS THE QUESTION OF PENSIONS FOR THE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF FORMER SPANISH CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES NOW LIVING IN MOROCCO. THE MOROCCANS WISHED THE GOS TO PAY THE GOM, WHICH WOULD IN TURN UNDERTAKE TO MAKE THE MONTHLY PAYMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENTS. THE GOS, SAID MIRANDA, WOULD NOT AGREE TO THIS, BUT HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THE GOM WOULD NOT MAKE A CAUSE CELEBRE OF THE ISSUE.

4. LISTS OF SAHARANS. MIRANDA SAID THAT ONE OTHER DIFFICULTY REMAINED. IT CONCERNED A GOM REQUEST TO TURN OVER ITS PERSONNEL RECORDS AND LISTS OF SAHARANS WHICH SPANISH TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES HAD MAINTAINED IN EL AYOUN. THE GOS WAS BALKING AT THIS REQUEST, FOR IT INVOLVED PRIVILEGED INFORMATION AND COULD JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF SOME OF ITS FORMER EMPLOYEES GIVEN THE CIVIL UNREST PREVAILING IN THE SAHARA. HE DID NOT KNOW HOW THIS WOULD BE RESOLVED, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT WAS A VERY TRICKY ISSUE IN LIGHT OF POSSIBLE FUTURE EFFORTS TO "CONSULT" WITH THE SAHARAN PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNGA SELF-DETERMINATION RESOLUTIONS.

5. NEXT UNGA ON THE SAHARA. AS IN THE PAST, THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR DID NOT SEE HOW HIS GOVERNMENT COULD BE OF DECISIVE HELP TO MOROCCO IN THE FORTHCOMING UNGA. THE GOS, HE SAID, WOULD CERTAINLY LIKE TO SEE A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM AND WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD TO HELP MOROCCO IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS AT THE UNGA. BECAUSE SPAIN WAS FORMERLY ONLY AN ADMINISTERING POWER AND NEVER HAD SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE SAHARA, HOWEVER, IT COULD NOT AGREE THAT SOVEREIGNTY PASSED FROM SPAIN TO MOROCCO UNDER THE NOVEMBER, 1975 MADRID ACCORDS. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, MIRANDA CONCLUDED, SPAIN'S ULTIMATE POSITION AT THE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RABAT 04427 161751Z

UNGA WOULD DEPEND ON THE PRECISE WORDING OF THE SAHARA RESOLUTION.

6. COMMENT. THE RELATIVELY NEW SPANISH AMBASSADOR WAS PAINTING THE BEST POSSIBLE PICTURE, SOMETHING WHICH DOES CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO ATMOSPHERICS. HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR FROM READING BETWEEN THE LINES AND OUR OTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH SPANISH EMBASSY OFFICIALS THAT THE HIGH-

LEVEL EXPRESSIONS OF WARMTH AND FRIENDSHIP STILL HAVE NOT
ENTIRELY PENETRATED THE ISSUES THEMSELVES OR, MORE
IMPORTANTLY, THE ATTITUDES OF THOSE CHARGED TO DEAL WITH
THOSE ISSUES.
ANDERSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RABAT04427
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760314-0675
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760850/aaaabrfs.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 RABAT 3426
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOROCCAN-SPANISH RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, SP, MO, SS, (ALABART-MIRANDA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006